

# The Ontario Argus.

VOL. 20

MAHEUR COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, SEPT 28, 1916

NUMBER 39

## TRADERS' DAY HAS AUSPICIOUS OPENING

THIRTY-FIVE HORSES, COWS, and MISCELLANEOUS GOODS SOLD SATURDAY.

## SECOND SALE DAY OCTOBER 28

Many Buyers Came to Investigate Proceedings and Declared Intention of Coming Again.

Ontario's First Traders' Day sale which was held at the Moore stables last Saturday afternoon was a real success. With the sale of nearly \$2,000 worth of horses, cattle, pigs and miscellaneous goods an auspicious start toward a permanent institution was made.

The principal item in the total was that of horses. In all there were 35 head sold and these with cattle and pigs gave the livestock the big end of the results. At the next sale there will be even a larger number offered, for so satisfied with the manner in which the sale was conducted, were many skeptics who came just to see what was done, that they volunteered the information that they "would be back for the next one."

Col. George Waters of Weiser was the auctioneer. The sale did not start until one p. m. for nearly everyone spent the forenoon in recovering from the fair excitement. But when the sale started it went thru in a hurry and the last article was offered about 5:30 and sold.

Twenty-four hours after the first sale was concluded Manager Bert Wessell had listed more horses and cattle than were listed for the first sale. Included in the new list being made up now is a lot of fine milk cows and there is every indication that there will be from 25 to 50 per cent more goods offered for the October sale than there was for the opening event.

One of the conspicuous things about the first sale was the fact that many of the buyers were from the interior of Idaho, several miles from Ontario's natural trading radius. There were also a number from the interior of Malheur county. One of the highest purchasers was J. S. White of Payette who bought 14 head of horses and after branding them on Sunday drove them to the upper Willamette valley where he has a ranch which is just stocking up.

Arrangements are being made for an extensive campaign for the second sale to widen the territory from which goods will be secured and from which buyers will come and there is substantial grounds for believing that with consistent efforts being forwarded that Ontario's Monthly Traders' day will soon take rank with the largest sale institutions in this region, and the city profit thereby.

### They Are Sure Coming.

Cooper Bros. Shows are coming. This circus comes well spoken of by the press in cities visited and is known as the world's newest, best and most progressive tented exhibition. None but the highest priced and best performers known to the world are employed which guarantees to its patrons the very best exhibition the amusement loving public ever had presented to its notice. Endorsed by the press and public alike as a high-class, refined and moral as well as educational exhibition. A grand street review will take place at one o'clock on the main street. Also a free exhibition takes place on the show grounds immediately after performance start, at two and eight p. m. One day only at Ontario, Friday, Oct. 6.

In figuring the percentage of progressives who returned to the republican party in Maine the tabulating machine goes all to pieces. There were about 18,000 moose left in Maine two years ago—and this year the republican vote is increased by more than twenty thousand. The moose evidently returned with good interest.

Attorney R. W. Swager left Tuesday for Juntura and other points in the west end of the county to be gone several days.

## TRACTORS GAINING FAVOR IN ONTARIO

Big Power Machine Shown at Fair Purchased by Weaver Bros. and Makes Trip to Bonita.

One of the side attractions at the fair which drew a great deal of attention from the thousands of visitors in Ontario last week was the big Case tractor shown by the Troxell Implement company of this city. It did more than attract attention. It made so profound an impression that it was sold soon after its arrival to County Commissioner J. F. Weaver and his brother, J. N. Weaver, and is now on the latter's farm near Bonita where it was driven the first of the week by County Agricultural Agent W. W. Howard.

Beside this tractor which was delivered the Troxell company next week will deliver one to Jack Giesler of Fruitland and as soon as deliveries can be secured from the factory several others will be traveling the roads near Ontario.

Beside the tractor itself, no little attention was directed to the gang plow which accompanied it making possible the realization of increased efficiency thru its ability to use the power of the tractor. According to the experience of those who have used the combination in this section the tractor and plow will do the work of ten big horses and can get over the ground no matter how rough it may be.

The principal reason why companies selling these tractors are having trouble with deliveries is that the tractors are so much in demand for the armies of Europe. All this spring there was from one to three train loads of these tractors unloaded in Seattle for delivery to the Russian government for the use of its armies in Galicia.

These trains passed over the Northern Pacific and Great Northern to Seattle and were on boxed-in flat cars, for the tractors could not be loaded complete in box cars and as the left the factory they were ready to go to work at once hauling artillery and supplies for the czar's armies in the field.

With the return of peace it is believed that the proven ability of the tractors will revolutionize the power problems of the farms of the United States and when that time comes the purchase of tractors in Ontario last week indicates that the progressive farmers of this region will be out in front.

## POULTRY SHOW WILL BE HELD IN ONTARIO

Association of Bird Fanciers Formed To Hold Big Show of Feathered Tribe.

The Ontario Poultry show association is the latest addition to the city's activities. This organization was formed this week with the following officers: Dr. A. G. Moore, president; Wilbur Clayton, secretary and D. H. Kerfoot, treasurer.

The prime motive for this organization is the advancement of the interest in high grade chickens and to the general betterment of chicken raisers in this section commercially.

To promote this end the association will hold a big poultry show in Ontario some time in January, probably soon after the New Year.

That interest in such a show will be more than local has been indicated by the expressed willingness of more than 80 chicken raisers to exhibit their best at the show. These exhibitors come not from around Ontario only, but from Idaho, Washington and Utah. It is the intention of the association to make this annual show the biggest poultry event in the Snake river valley and preparations are being made to that end. Further announcements will be made concerning the show in the near future.

### CONFERENCE EXCURSIONS.

To Salt Lake City October 2nd to 8th, inclusive. See agents for details. Don't forget our regular Sunday and Week-End Excursions. 39

## FAIR CLOSES IN BLAZE OF GLORIOUS SPORT

MISS FREDRETTA SAGE ENDS GIRLS' RELAY WITH FALL BUT ESCAPES INJURIES.

## INTEREST MAINTAINED THROUGH LAST EVENT

Financially Fair Did Not Pay But Was Great Success Otherwise and Citizens Feel Proud of Achievement.

With unabated interest crowds attended the last day of the fair last Friday and were given a program equal to the best of the week. In fact there was no best day this year for the programs were so evenly balanced that each afternoon in front of the stands there was enough going on to satisfy the crowd, and then some.

The closing afternoon saw several unheralded numbers and the rivalry was keen. The big stunt of the afternoon, the girl's relay was ended with a thrilling finish in which Miss Fredretta Sage, who had led all the way was thrown from her horse by the loosening of a cinch. The accident happened on the rim of the track 100 feet from the wire.

Fortunately Miss Sage suffered no severe injuries and was able to walk from the track amid the cheers of the crowd. The cheers she received were a sensational reversal of the jeers that greeted the start. Miss Sage by clever maneuvering got a running start of her competitors, Miss Flock and Miss McGee and partisans of these young ladies manifested their disapproval by cat calls for some time, until it was plainly evident that in actually running Miss Sage was doubling the distance between her and the second horse and on each round she increased the lead so decisively that those who disapproved of the start were silenced, their jeers later to be turned to cheers when after ending a beautiful ridden race, Miss Sage fell, everyone united to applaud her grit.

Miss McGee and Miss Flock also rode well but their mounts were not equal to those ridden by Miss Sage and the real contest was between them for second honors. After running neck to neck for the first mile and a quarter they ended the race in a dead heat.

The last event of the afternoon was the wild horse race and it may be going yet, for after the first and

second horses were piloted over the line the crowd started to leave the stands for the four horses that had reached the final straight away were engaged in a little game of turn-around and go back acting only as "wild cayuses" can.

The result of the races were:  
2:25 pace Sir Archibald, Bob Fitzsimmons, Miss Spokane, Miss Ellen Magnita. Time 2:20, 2:20 1/4 and 2:19 1/2.

2:14 trot D. J. Burk, The Corsair, Dr. Wayo, Amy McKinney. Time 2:23 1/4; 2:21 and 2:21 1/4.

Mile running race Leo H., Soren and Lieut. Sawyer.

Malheur county horses, running race won by The Lark, owned by C. E. Rutherford, Ironsides.

Girls relay, Miss Sage, first, Miss McGee and Miss Flock tied.

Interest Maintained.  
One of the big features of the last afternoon was the stock parade which President A. W. Trow headed leading the handsome big Percheron and followed by as fine an assortment of horses and cattle as was ever assembled in this region.

By this time the blue ribbons had been distributed and many of the winners were trophies with justified pleasure and added to the picturesque of the stands.

All the last day of the fair crowds continued to throng the main building where General Superintendent E. G. Bailey and his assistants, who had gathered the finest display ever shown in Ontario were busy to the end.

As the result of the effort of Secretary C. M. Stearns, on whom fell the multitude of details connected with the tabulation of results, to have his work done on time the Argus gives herewith the complete list of prize winners in all departments:

(Continued on page five)

### FIRE PREVENTION DAY.

The anniversary of the Chicago conflagration is October 9th and nearly every state in the union will observe this as "Fire Protection Day." The insurance department of Oregon wishes to urge the observance of this day and earnestly requests the municipal officers to call the attention of the citizens of their community to the need of fire prevention.

Fire prevention means good housekeeping; the cleaning out of attics, store rooms, closets and basements; the proper disposal of rubbish; repairing defective flues and chimneys; repairing gas fixtures and electric light cords; making heating plants and stoves safe; and proper storage of gasoline. Try fire prevention once and you will find it is to your interest. I am sure the cleaning up of places will mean sanitation as well as fire prevention.

And I appeal to every school district to hold appropriate exercises and fire drills. If any schools are interested probably this department can offer suggestions for the school program.

I trust that the insurance agents will co-operate with the fire departments and officers of the different municipalities in order that the many towns in this state may properly observe this day.

HARVEY WELLS, Insurance Commissioner.

Ray W. Logan of La Grande, Oregon, was a business visitor here on Monday.

## DID NOT GET LIST ASSERTS WEISERITE

Declare Report Circulated Here During Fair Week False and Due to Political Animosity.

J. L. Richards of Weiser, candidate for probate judge on the republican ticket in Washington county was in Ontario Tuesday to ascertain the source of the story printed last week that he with, a member of the clergy of the Idaho city had secured a list of the patrons of the local express office from Idaho, and declare that the story is without foundation.

"I have not been in Ontario since last March," said Mr. Richards, "and the story has been circulated for political purposes to injure my candidacy. In fact I have never talked with Rev. Hemphill, and never heard of the existence of a list, if there is one, until someone connected me with it.

Is Political Boomerang.  
"The story is proving a political boomerang for while such a tale was circulated for some time in Weiser, no one believes it since they have learned the source and the animus which is behind the false report."

Could Not Get List.  
In justice to Mr. Richards the Argus investigated the report here, which it could not do while getting out a daily last week and find this to be true:

The local express office could not furnish such a list did it so desire. The only place a list could be secured would be in the office of the county clerk at Vale and this Mr. Richards did not do, as has been verified. Also in justice to Mr. Richards the Argus is glad to state that he did not even visit the local express office and did not there secure the list reported to have been secured, this the local express agent confirmed in the presence of Mr. Richards.

The story as printed was based on a report given circulation during fair week by Weiser visitors to the fair and this additional statement is made in justice to Mr. Richards, since the rumor has evidently been used to effect his candidacy for office.

### NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS.

The taxpayers of Malheur County are hereby called to meet in the Circuit Court Room, in the Courthouse at Vale, on Friday, the 6th day of October, 1916, at the hour of 1:00 p. m., to take up the matter of the valuation of the 1916 tax roll, which totals \$6,014,405, as turned in by the assessor, or materially less than the 1915 roll as turned in by the assessor.

The Board of Equalization lowered what they considered the extreme high valuation of the 1913 roll and raised what they considered the extreme low valuation of the 1915 roll, in an attempt to keep it normal and avoid revolutionary levies, all of which seems to have been unsatisfactory, and for which they have received much adverse criticism. If the roll is left at the present low level, the criticism will be shifted to the County Commissioners for making extreme high levies.

We are, therefore, asking the taxpayers leagues, the granges, the Commercial Organizations, and any and all taxpayers to respond to this call and tell us what they want.

We want a big meeting so as to get the sentiment of all taxpayers in the County.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION,  
GEO. M. MCKNIGHT, Chairman  
MR. HILL, Dissenting,  
W. H. DOOLITTLE, Clerk.

### NATIONAL LECTURER COMING TO ONTARIO.

Hon. Edward F. Burns, of Brooklyn, N. Y., national lecturer of the M. W. A. will address the public at an open meeting at the I. O. O. F. hall Tuesday evening, October 10, on the subject of "Fraternalism as Exemplified by the Modern Woodmen of America," the largest society of its kind in existence under the auspices of the local camp at Ontario. Everybody invited. Free.

The ladies of the Episcopal guild will serve waffles and coffee in the Commercial club rooms on election day from 11 a. m. to 11 p. m. 29-40

## EQUALIZATION BOARD HAS STORMY SESSION

LIE PASSED BETWEEN ASSESSOR L. E. HILL AND ATTORNEY EASTHAM OF VALE.

## LAND VALUATIONS QUESTIONED

Attorney J. W. McCulloch of Ontario Files Affidavit Asking for Rejection of Roll and Demands Re-assessment—Discrepancies Cited.

Thru-out the week stormy sessions have marked the meeting of the board of equalization at Vale. Charges of arbitrary valuations on the part of Assessor L. E. Hill, and denials by him have been enlivened by tilts during which the "short and ugly words," with qualifying adjectives were used and the judicial interposition of the county court have been required to restore peace and harmony.

On Tuesday, while objecting to the raising of a valuation made in June and increased in August, Attorney Eastham of Vale recited a conversation which he said he had with Mr. Hill in his office. Before he had finished the statement Mr. Hill interrupted by declaring:

"That's a d—m lie. I never said anything of the kind. Anyway that has nothing to do with the valuation of the land or the question of taxes before this board."

"Shut-up," retorted Mr. Eastham, whose anger was reaching the boiling point.

Issues Challenge.  
"You have interrupted enough," continued Mr. Eastham. And I don't want any more of it. I am going to make this statement and if the court will not protect me I'll have to protect myself."

Here Judge George McKnight put oil on the troubled waters and Mr. Eastham continued to introduce evidence intended to show that the valuation on his holdings had been increased beyond reason.

Earlier in the sessions of the board Mr. Eastham and Mr. Hill had verbal tilts which approached the superheated stage and spectators looked longingly for open warfare but were disappointed.

While the outbreaks between these men indicate the feeling which has been brewing for some time that valuations in the county are unequal. The most startling exposition of this was that set forth by Attorney J. W. McCulloch of this city in an affidavit protesting the entire roll and asking a re-assessment of the entire county.

In his affidavit Mr. McCulloch declares that one of his quarter sections in section 8 township 18, range 46 is assessed at \$3765, another at \$2050, while a quarter section belonging to C. W. Mallett lying a half mile away and of equal value, similar in character in every respect is assessed on a valuation of but \$200. Also that the quarter section adjoining Mr. Mallett's land, belonging to E. Huffman is assessed at \$1,100; and that the N 1/2 N 1/2 of section 18 belonging to Frank Polles, which has the same water right as that obtaining to his, (McCulloch's) land is assessed at \$1000.

Another instance of the variation in valuations cited is that of the land belonging to David Dunbar, which angles on Mr. McCulloch's land and is assessed for but \$300 for a full quarter section. This land, the affidavit declares was purchased some time since for \$6400.

The wide difference in these various assessments is summed up in the affidavit in part as follows:

"That this affiant in order to show to this Board of Equalization that the said assessment of the said above described lands is unfair, unjust and inequitable and not assessed in proportion to other lands in the Malheur county similarly situated, and that the same is assessed beyond its actual cash value, calls this board's attention to the assessment of other lands similar, adjoining or in the immediate vicinity of the above described lands, and asks that the court compare said assessments in determining the value of the said lands."

(Continued on page five)